

# Michiana's Rainbow Gazette

Serving The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community of Michiana

Published by Pride Coalition – South Bend, IN

January 2001

 **January**  
**2001**

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**Happy New  
Year!**

## We're Back... Finally!!

Ah, at last...we are back on track – with a great deal of thanks to a couple of months off, of course. A lot has been going on since our last publication – all of which we would love to summarize for you, but instead we'll spare you the torture of repetitive news. As for what has been happening with the Rainbow Gazette, many positive changes have been made.

The MRG, Open Arms, and PFLAG has devised a plan to merge the three newsletters into one awesome publication to become the official newsletter of Pride Coalition. So, what happened to the Church of The Good Shepherd? Rev. Larry Ort has taken a job with a substance abuse agency in Tampa, Florida (*where people vote like they drive...j/k*), and, also, has taken a position as Assistant Pastor of a very gay-friendly Catholic church. Larry sends his blessings and wanted to thank everybody for their support over the past years.

Other changes with the Rainbow Gazette means more local voices and talents to make your reading experience more *Gay!* We are keeping our fingers and legs crossed in hopes a couple of volunteer writers will commit to writing a column per issue, but for now we think that you will enjoy their writing talents, and please let us hear what you think. There is some tweaking yet to be done, so try not to be harsh on us.

Those who have subscriptions to Open Arms, and those who are members of PFLAG, will receive a copy of Michiana's Rainbow Gazette in lieu of what you would normally receive for the remainder of your current subscription or membership. Open Arms members will receive the Open Arms edition of Michiana's Rainbow Gazette which will contain important stuff that you would normally see in the Open Arms newsletter. At the end of your current subscriptions you may opt to continue with Michiana's Rainbow Gazette being delivered right to your front door, or you can pick up a copy at any of the locations listed on the back page.

We ask that if you, or anybody else except for persons considering membership with PFLAG which the membership fee covers this part, wish to receive a copy of Michiana's Rainbow Gazette via USPS to contribute a minimum of \$15 per year to help offset the cost of postage and envelopes. This is a small fee, but it is well worth it. Plus, it is tax deductible. OK, with that all said and out of the way, let's get on with business. Enjoy!

## Fall Bowling League Ends Successfully

The Pride Coalition's first project - the Lesbian & Gay Bowling League - has successfully completed its first season. The Friday evening league began on September 8, 2000 and eleven teams completed the season on December 8<sup>th</sup> with a prize giveaway of more than \$800. "We were very pleased with the success of the league. Chippewa Bowl supported us from the very beginning and their staff guided us through all the steps," stated Eugene Walls, the league president. "We did not experience homophobia from the staff nor from the other leagues that were bowling and as far as I know there were no problems at all."

The league was organized as a way for the lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender community and its supporters to come together, get to know one another and have a great time. "Bowlers ranged in skill from beginners to folks who were pretty good. Most improved as the season progressed," commented Walls. "There were straight, bisexual and gay folks, men and women and a wide range of ages."

Individuals and teams donated more than \$250 of their prize funds to support

(Continued on page 2)





# Local Buzz

## Miss Gay Indiana US of A Pageant Coming To Truman's by Glenn James

Starting February 7th through the 8th, Truman's Night Club will be host to the Miss Gay Indiana US of A pageant. Held in Michiana for the first time the two evenings are sure to be filled with wig teasing excitement.

Traditionally held at Club Cabaret of Indianapolis, Truman's plans to continue to host the pageant with preliminary expansions in mind. "Within the next couple of years we are hoping to have ten preliminaries," states John Shockey, owner of Truman's. This year there were only three preliminaries with two held at Stars of Indianapolis and one at Scottie's of Evansville which narrowed the contestant field down to six luxurious female impersonators.

The winner of this years' pageant will receive \$600 cash and the first runner up will receive \$400 cash. Both will continue on to compete in the national pageant Miss Gay US of A held in Dallas, Texas later this year with additional sponsorship provided by Truman's.

Entertainment for the two evenings will be provided by

Truman's very own *Touch of Class Review*, Miss Latina Garrett, current reigning Miss Gay Indiana US of A Kendra Monroe, and Miss Leslie Ryan of Ft. Wayne who will also lead the judging as Head Judge. An appearance by the current reigning Miss Gay US of A Chevelle Brooks of Texas is also expected.

Door cover is \$5 per evening-only a couple of bucks more than normal door cover. So, if you can attend please do so and show your support to continue a new tradition right here in Michiana.

*Michiana's Rainbow Gazette and staff would like to extend a heart felt welcome to Miss Gay Indiana US of A pageant and all contestants. Best of luck, and we hope your stay in Mishawaka/South Bend is very Gay!*

*For more information about competing in future Miss Gay Indiana US of A pageants contact Truman's.*

## Landmark Status Considered For Pioneer's Home

*Advocate.com - © 2000 www.advocate.com*

The Chicago Commission on Landmarks voted Wednesday to grant preliminary landmark status to the former home of Henry Gerber, one of the nation's first gay activists, the *Chicago Tribune* reports. Gerber established the Society for Human Rights, considered the country's first gay rights group, in his home at 1710 Crilly Court in 1924. Gerber began publishing a gay rights newsletter from his home, from which he moved in 1925, but he was reported to the authorities, who raided his new home and shut down his group. Gerber faced two trials in

connection with the raid but was never convicted. He was fired from his job at the U.S. Post Office for "conduct unbecoming a postal worker" and ended up serving in the Army for 17 years. He died in 1972. "I consider it a blessing that the city decided to do this today," said Karen Sendziak, historian and curator for the Gerber/Hart Library. "A lot of Chicagoans don't know who he is or what he did." The final approval of landmark status for the house must be given by the city council. The process can take more than a year. The house is currently a private residence.

*(Continued from page 1) Bowling...*

organizations working in the community. Donations were made to the St. Joseph County AIDS Task Force, AIDS Ministries/ AIDS Assist and to The Pride Coalition. "I was very proud of the generosity of the teams in supporting our community," commented Nancy Long, league secretary. "Some teams even donated their whole prize fund to support the work of these groups. We hope to give back even more in our upcoming season and we are going to be adding a 50/50 weekly raffle where 50% of the money collected goes to the winner of the raffle and 50% goes to a community organization."

The Pride Coalition's Lesbian and Gay Bowling League started its second season with a free bowling party on Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001 at Chippewa Bowl with the first official game of the season on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. The second season will last 17 weeks and run through April 27,

2001. The league welcomes spectators and newcomers. For more information on the league or to get on the mailing list for future leagues, please call 246-1930.



*LunaSea Productions celebrates Black History Month with comedienne*

**Karen Williams**

**Sat, February 24, 2001 • 8:00PM**

Madame Walker Theater

617 Indiana Ave, Indpls, IN, General Seating

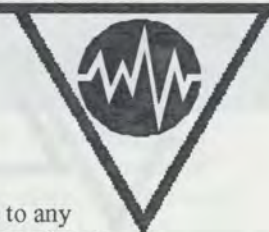
**Tickets: \$22 in advance, \$24 at the door**

*Dance immediately following the show with DJs Karen "Lady Funk" Maynard and Sharon "Rock the House" Levels  
(Bring show ticket stub to enter)*



# Justice To Lay Ground Work For GLBT Civil Rights Bill

Press Release December 15, 2000 Justice, Inc.



Justice, Inc., the GLBT civil rights group that has served Indiana for 20 years, has created a limited partnership with LGBT Fairness Indiana to lay the ground work for the introduction of an inclusive Indiana GLBT civil rights bill.

As Justice is evaluating its priorities to attain this goal, the Justice Board of Directors voted unanimously on December 10 to discontinue its sponsorship of PrideFest, Indiana's largest GLBT pride event.

"Justice needs to concentrate on organizing throughout Indiana to attain a GLBT civil rights bill. Part of that effort includes participating in Pride events throughout Indiana. Justice needs to concentrate its efforts on political organizing rather than organizing this Pride Event," states Justice President Wally Paynter.

Justice is offering technical assistance to any non-profit organizations interested in sponsoring an event such as PrideFest. Call Paynter at 812-474-4873 or e-mail [paynter@midwest.net](mailto:paynter@midwest.net) to find out what first steps are needed to sponsor this event.

Priorities for Justice and LGBT Fairness Indiana include recruiting volunteers throughout Indiana to coordinate legislative activities in Indiana's 100 house districts and 50 senate districts. Other needed volunteers include those who can help lobby, register voters, coordinate a voters guide, regional organizers, web designers and newsletter editors, house party hosts and volunteers who will help raise funds.

## Seahorse II Cabaret 26th Anniversary Celebration

By Sissy Van Dyke

And now a word from the "You Shoulda Been There!" Department: If you were not at the Seahorse II Cabaret's 26th Anniversary celebration on December 4th, Chile, "You shoulda been there!" The place was packed and the people were dressed to kill, on-stage and off. Like the commercial says, tuxedos and evening gowns aren't just for weddings anymore, and Honey, tuxedos are not just for men anymore, and, well, you get the picture. Let's just say no matter who was wearing what, everybody looked fabulous. For the financially challenged denizens of gay Michiana, of which yours truly is certainly one, your photo ID was your passport to free food, free champagne,

dancing, and nearly two hours of cabaret entertainment on the glittering stage.

The buffet featured a gorgeous, lit fountain bubbling with pink bubbly, and a generous spread of homemade chicken wings, meatballs, egg rolls, asparagus, veggies and a asparagus, cheese and spinach soufflé that was to die for! The theme of the evening was Hollywood and the Street of Dreams, and featured performances by Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, Humphrey Bogart, and Elvis Presley, all back from the dead or, at least, revived for the evening. The production numbers included the "Play it Again Sam" scene from Casablanca with Nicholas

Andrews doing a great Bogey, Barbie Doll out Bergmaning Bergman, and Jade playing it again as Sam on the piano.

Other highlights of the evening featured Beauregard as Wayne Newton, Miss Tracy Love doing Tina Turner, Karen P as Elvis, Tone Staying Alive as Travolta as well as selections from Owen Laroo and J. J. Knight. The show stopper occurred at the end of the night when Miss Grace Lorraine lost her head, well, her wig anyway, but, trooper to the end, kept performing her number sans head gear. It was a stunning piece of professionalism and only goes to show you that

while big hair and glamorous costumes help, true diva-hood comes from within.

What more can I say, you shoulda been there. Don't tell me you know about it, because Sandy, the door goddess, told me that club owner, Gloria Frankel, sent out invitations to all the folks on her mailing list three months in advance! Forget Santa, this is one list you don't want to miss.

### St. Joseph County Health Department

County-City Building, 9th Floor – 227 West Jefferson  
South Bend, Indiana 46601

- **Free Confidential & Anonymous HIV Testing**
- **Low Cost STD Testing & Treatment**

Monday – Friday 8 am – 3:30 pm

Call (219) 235-9781 or (219) 235-9725 For  
Appointment Or More Information

**Walk In Testing For HIV Is Available At:**

**AIDS Task Force of St. Joseph Co. (SB) – Tue. 2 pm-4 pm**  
**LaPorte Clinic (Michigan City) – Fri. 10 am-4 pm**

Call For Directions or More Information

**Get Tested With The New OraSure Syringe-Free HIV Test**





# Local Buzz

## Washtenaw County, MI To Offer D.P. Benefits

© 2000 Triangle Foundation – Triangle Foundation

(Ann Arbor)—Washtenaw County has become the first county in Michigan to offer extend domestic partnership benefits to same-sex couples. On December 1, after hearing testimony from County residents, the Washtenaw County Commission voted 9-4 to extend same-sex domestic partnership benefits to its gay, lesbian and bisexual employees.

"Today, I am prouder than ever to live in Washtenaw County," says Heather MacAllister, Field Organizer at Triangle Foundation. "Without a doubt, domestic partner benefits are the wave of the future. More and more employers are fulfilling their commitment to equal pay for equal work. As long as same-sex

couples are denied the right to marry, domestic partner benefits allow couples to protect the health of their loved ones."

Commissioner Vivienne Armentrout feels that, "This simply brings our employee benefits up to a modern standard. I'm glad we could be a leader."

Triangle Foundation encouraged the Commission to support the benefits and worked with county employees and residents of Washtenaw County to leverage support for the measure. Triangle Foundation is Michigan's statewide civil rights, advocacy and anti-violence organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons.

## Jackson, MI Teens Under Attack By Religious Extremists

© 2000 Triangle Foundation – Triangle Foundation

In an outrageously hostile act, Gary Glenn and his militant Christian organization, the American Family Association, have swayed a local religious radical to commandeer local teens at Jackson High to start an "opposition group" to the schools' Gay/Straight Alliance, or GSA.

GSA's are groups that exist to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (GLBTQ) youth with issues that affect their lives. They are just like any other club for youth seeking support and information.

As the suicide rate for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (GLBTQ) teens is 33% higher than for that of heterosexual teens, it is important to encourage GSA's at the high school level. GLBTQ youth are also at higher risk for substance abuse, homelessness and dropping out of school, due to anti-gay attitudes that go unchallenged in the home and at school. A GSA can provide a critical support system for a teen struggling with self-doubt, hatred, bigotry, depression and violence, sometimes from their own family.

"AFA's own literature admits that gay youth are at risk for ridicule and harassment, yet the AFA is in direct opposition to a group that could stem the tide of youth suicide," said Heather MacAllister, Field Organizer for the Triangle Foundation. "Their position is hypocritical and dangerous. Gary Glenn and the AFA frequently recruit local anti-gay activists to promote AFA intolerance. It's another one of his attempts to meddle in a local situation where his brand of extremism is not wanted and does not belong.

Mike Neubecker, Michigan State Council Chair for Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is the proud parent of a gay son. He was disturbed to hear of the "opposition group" forming at Jackson High, saying, "GSA's exist to help make school a safer place to be, especially for GLBT kids. Starting a group in direct opposition to that will do quite the opposite", making schools even less safe for GLBT youth.

"Gary Glenn is a predator on our youth," said Jeffrey

Montgomery, Triangle Foundation's Executive Director. "The religious extremists like Glenn accuse gay adults of 'recruiting' youth—but the GSA at Jackson High was started by students, for students. Glenn is a predator who is attempting to use students at Jackson High to advance the anti-family agenda of the speciously-named 'American Family Association'. An action like this will only alienate parents and children and contribute to a climate of fear and harassment for GLBT students and their allies."

The Triangle Foundation is Michigan's statewide civil rights, advocacy and anti-violence organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons



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**Justice, Inc.**

P.O. Box 2387 – Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

*Justice, Inc. Is Indiana's Statewide Civil Rights  
Organization On Gay, Lesbian and HIV Issues*



# Dissolution of AIDServe Indiana, Inc.

*A consumer prospective*

Unfortunately the new millennium has brought misfortune to the HIV/AIDS community throughout the State of Indiana. There was a time when the rest of the nation looked to Indiana as a model state in providing the much needed program services that the Ryan White Care Act dollars support. To everyone's dismay the insolvency of AIDServe Indiana Inc. (ASI) has now been brought to a public forum. It is unclear as to what did happen to this lead agency.

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) currently continues an investigation and independent comprehensive audit of ASI. Cash flow problems have existed since the merger of ICCAN and Indiana Cares supported by the ISDH. Recent negotiations between ASI and ISDH to continue the program services were unsuccessful. The state implemented its contingency plan which effectively shut the doors of ASI.

The HIV/AIDS consumers in the state have already been dealing with the strain of nonpayment of programs and services for over 16 months. Providers feel the frustration, as well. As the audit continues it has been determined that some service providers throughout Indiana are owed tens of thousands of dollars. Nonpayment of service programs will bring strain to the local agencies and organizations who must now attempt to fill the gaps.

Can ISDH do a better job? There are as many as 900 clients caught in this turmoil. Winter and the rising cost of fuels bring more problems for those needing services.

The stress and anxiety generated by the uncertainty with these events are surely taking a toll on the health of many. While learning to live with HIV/AIDS, one discovers quickly how

important bringing down the viral load is. Maintaining and rebuilding the immune system are essential to the quality of health. Consumers in the community, therefore, must maintain good consistent communication with care coordinators in order to address unmet needs on a timely basis – consumers cannot wait until the last minute. Furthermore, a grievance procedure is in place for those consumers experiencing difficulty with a request for assistance. Additionally, your District #2 statewide HIV Consumer Advisory Board Representative (CAB) will advocate on behalf of a consumer's unmet need. The mission of the CAB is to provide a mechanism through with people with HIV infection can have voiced, meaningful input towards the development of policies and programs for addressing needs. The CAB has proven itself previously. In fact, the SWCAB initiated the investigation of ASI.

Your SWCAB Representative, Clyde Young, Jr., speaks for you and has the tools to get the job done. In order for your local AIDS Service Organization to assist and meet the needs of the community during these trying times, we must all work closely together for solutions. With the current challenges of these health care issues, it is essential that the grassroots community commitment be reenergize. (Submitted 12/00 by Planned Parenthood/Outreach Coordinator)

## SNAPDRAGON ALLEY

Kim or Barb 219-259-0906



Have you ever looked at quilts, afghans or other crafts and wished you could find one with a triangle or a rainbow or some other symbol?

**CALL US-WE CAN HELP!**

Handmade and machine made Quilts, Crocheted Afghans,  
Other special craft items and Alterations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kim and I are independent distributors of a wonderful line of all natural, herbal weight loss products, vitamins, dietary supplements, concentration aids, ect. We approached this venture with much skepticism; but much to our surprise and delight, we quickly overcame that. In the short time that we have utilized the products ourselves—we feel much more energetic and have each lost 30+ pounds. We are firm believers in the quality and efficiency of this line of products and would like to help you become a believer too! So, if you need to lose a few pounds but hate to diet, want to feel more energetic, or want to increase your ability to focus and concentrate—**CALL US—WE CAN HELP!**



**Planned Parenthood®**  
of North Central Indiana, Inc.

### Elkhart

221 North Main Street  
(219) 294-7561

### Hawthorne (Mish.)

212 West Edison Road  
(219) 255-9555

### Warsaw

630 South Buffalo Street  
(219) 267-3889

### Plymouth

304 North Walnut Road  
(219) 936-8680

### Urban Care (SB)

1818 South Miami Street  
(219) 237-6644

(No phone at Friday night clinic.)

## Friday Nights Drop In Clinic

1920 S. Main St.  
South Bend

**Condoms, HIV/STD  
Education, and  
Emergency Birth  
Control**

Open Every Friday  
Night 5:30 pm –  
Midnight  
(except holidays)

**Clinic services include:  
reproductive health care, birth  
control, STD testing and treatment,  
cervical and breast cancer  
screening, colposcopy and  
cryotherapy. Education programs**





# OPEN Arms

## Update – Lesbian Support Group

by L. B.

The Lesbian Support Group now meets on the first and third Friday of each month starting at 7 pm. The first monthly meeting will be conducted as usual with discussions of issues of interest. The second monthly meeting will be somewhat of a social event with something fun and relaxing planned. December's second meeting included a movie, and the January's second meeting, which will be held on the 19th, will include bingo.

Also, the Lesbian Support Group's held its' first ever New Year's Eve Dance party at Southside and was attended by 61 people who all had lots of fun while they rang in the new year

together. It was a fabulous Gayla affair!!!

*(Editors Note: The Lesbian Support Group is a low-profile group who cherishes anonymity. If you are interested in attending the group meetings please contact them by mail at:*

**P.O. Box 1612, Mishawaka, Indiana, 46544**

*Or e-mail Open Arms at [openarms@planetout.com](mailto:openarms@planetout.com) and we will pass your message on to the appropriate person. Thank you.)*

## Suzanne Westenhoefer Returns To Indy

PSA by Women In The Arts

For the first time in Indy, Suzanne Westenhoefer will be promoting her new show *Femme De Tour!* Which will soon be part of another HBO special. Special guest for the show will be pianist Barbara Higbie doing cuts from her new solo piano CD as well as some of the great old-time favorites.

This should be another great show, so mark your calendars for

Friday, January 26th at Indiana Roof Ballroom, and don't waste time purchasing those tickets! Suzanne's last show in Indy sold out 2 weeks in advance!

For more information or to purchase tickets please call (317) 951-9100 or e-mail to [dinobop@webtv.net](mailto:dinobop@webtv.net)

## Phelps To Picket Mary Cheney

© 2001 The Advocate

The Rev. Fred Phelps, the antigay Baptist minister from Topeka, Kan., best known for picketing the funerals of Matthew Shepard and people who have died of AIDS complications, plans to picket Mary Cheney and her father in Conifer, Colo., on January 13.

In a press release, Phelps says, "America, beware! Dick Cheney is an arch-deceiver, another Wyoming antichrist pushing

the unholy fag agenda, to cover his own sins.... Cheney is prepared to sodomize all of America, by pretending it's OK to be gay."

Phelps says the vice president-elect is "using his dyke daughter's sinful lifestyle for political advantage and spitting in the face of God. Cheney's health is frail. God has set him in slippery places. His foot shall slide."

### COMING TO MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE



1650 W. Foster, Ebenezer Lutheran Church  
Chicago Area, (312) 409-0276



**Saturday, Jan. 27, 2001** – Two presentations by **Maria Kuda** 7:30 pm "Valerie Taylor and Pearl Hart: A Chicago Love Story" and 8:30 pm "Chicago, Black Folks & Me: Cultural Differences or Racism?"

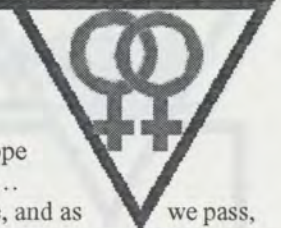
**Saturday Feb. 17** – **Women of Color Night** C.C. Carter and friends perform Say Jesus and Come To Me, Revival of the novel written by C.C. Carter.

**Saturday, Mar. 24** – **Ubaka Hill** returns for a weekend of drumming workshops and a major concert on Sat. night featuring the DrumSong Orchestra. For more info or to sign up for workshops, contact [ToniAJr@aol.com](mailto:ToniAJr@aol.com) or 773-769-9009



# Lesbians Used To Rent Attics

By Lee Lynch © 2001 Lee Lynch – All Rights Reserved



Okay, the real estate market is soft. The right buyer hasn't come alone. I have to learn patience. Things will pick up when the kids get out of school. I've heard all the Realtor talk.

I still feel like a teenager crazed with hope that a girlfriend will call. The phone rings, and damn, it's just some dear friend. Could you please e-mail in the future?

If it's a Realtor who wants to show our showplace, I'm transformed to something between the most charming, good-natured dyke in the world and a slaving mendicant.

I've become a Squeaky Wheel. I motivate, push, harass and annoy the poor Realtor so he'll find a buyer just to get me out of his heretofore-peaceful life. If he thinks we're renewing his contract just because he's done his job well, he's demented.

And friends? If I haven't given you a flyer about the house it's simply because you don't live here. If I haven't encouraged you to tell your friends, family, fellow workers, old schoolmates, and customers about this amazing find, you must be agoraphobic. Or wish I were.

I know I'm very fortunate to have a home to sell. I know I'm privileged to make choices about where I want to live. Still, most who have been through this discouraging process know that there comes a point when excitement about the prospect of moving self-destructs into longing for the good old days when lesbians used to attics.

Someone's coming? Warp speed! Vacuum! Dust! Compulsive scrubbing! Spirit moveables into the closets! Put on soft music and bake some damned cookies.

I tell myself not to get my hopes up. This works for about 35 seconds. I tell myself to be positive. This works for about 25 more seconds. I fling myself to my knees and whimper to the goddess. This doesn't work at all.

So I flit around the house, rag in hand, or try to work. If I'm out on the road escaping the whole thing I do my best to pay

attention to driving. I'm ambushed by hope time after time after time after time after...

I go for a walk when the buyers arrive, and as we pass, I check them for signs they've bonded with the driveway. I strain my ears for oohs and ahs. When they leave I scrutinize their faces.

Love and I have it down to a science. Last weekend I came in from shopping with yet more household cleaners, waxes, polishes. Before I could even ask she said, "They stayed four and a half minutes." Bad news.

Last night when she called home from her job she asked, "So, did you sell our house today?"

"Ten minutes."

The most frequent feedback I pummel out of our Realtor is about the land.

Pine, oak, madrone, glorious wild flowers, deer trails, mountain views and perfect bird habitat. We never cleared a thing because to us, this was the animal's land first. The Realtor advertises our place as Peaceful Seclusion.

What do buyers want? A LAWN!

The Realtor made suggestions. Our principles wavered. Out came the saws, the clippers, the loppers, the weedwacker, and the long-idle lawnmower.

Sunday the rototiller arrived with Ed and Rick of B & B Gardens. "Some of the wild flowers will survive this," promised Ed with the sincere sympathy of a physician announcing that your second lung is fine. Rick reassuringly reeled off names of deer-proof plants.

The phone rings. I leap! It's the Realtor returning my call about the ten-minute buyer. No go. I sigh, go redirect the sprinkler, return soggy, hope drowned.

Maybe we'll put in Astro Turf so we can get our peaceful seclusion.

**I tell myself not to  
get my hopes up.  
This works for about  
35 seconds. I tell  
myself to be positive.  
This works for about  
25 more seconds.**

## SERVICES OFFERED

Computer Sales & Services.....(219) 246-0029  
\$\$\$ in Real Estate Investing.....(219) 291-2342 or 291-2482  
Welding Repairs & Fabrication-Zealla Flores.....(219) 233-7436  
Safe At Home Pet Sitters.....(219) 243-0478  
Wills, Contracts, Powers of Attorney.....(219) 243-0478

*We would be happy to add your service and telephone number to this column for free – just send the information to:*

**Open Arms  
P.O. Box 845  
Mishawaka, Indiana 46546**

For More Information About Open Arms, Or To Submit Articles Of Interest, Please Direct All Correspondences To:

**Open Arms  
P.O. Box 845  
Mishawaka, IN 46546  
openarms@planetout.com**

*If you have a meeting or community event you would like listed for Open Arms mailing list only, please direct them to the address above.*





# Gay Michiana Directory

## Bars/ Clubs/Taverns

### **Helen's**

4960 West US Hwy. 20  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
(219) 874-1100

### **Jeannie's Tavern**

Ford St. @ Bendix Ave.  
South Bend, IN  
(219) 288-2962

### **Seahorse Cabaret II**

1902 Western Ave.  
South Bend, IN  
(219) 237-9139

### **Starz**

Kendall Ave.  
South Bend, IN  
(219) 288-7827

### **Truman's Night Club**

100 North Center  
Mishawaka, IN  
(219) 259-2282  
www.trumans.com

## Community Service

### **Justice, Inc. (IN)**

(317) 634-9212  
*Hate Crimes Hotline*  
(800) 886-GAYS  
hatecrime@justiceinc.org  
www.justiceinc.org

### **Pride At Work, AFL-CIO**

Josh Cazares, Co-President  
PO Box 1966  
Bloomington, IN 47402  
(812) 333-2977

### **Pride Coalition**

South Bend, IN  
(219) 289-7725

### **Triangle Foundation (MI)**

(313) 537-3323  
*Hate Crimes Hotline*  
(877) 7-TRIANGLE  
http://tri.org

## HIV/AIDS

The Gay Michiana Directory is a courtesy service provided by MRG. All listings are either GLBT owned and operated, or GLBT friendly. Please submit all additions, errors and omissions to:

MRG Directory - Attn: Glenn James  
222 West Battell Street  
Mishawaka, IN 46545-6139

### **AIDS Ministries/AIDS Assist**

*Care Coordination/Test Site*  
P.O. Box 11582  
South Bend, IN 46634  
(219) 234-2870 - South Bend  
(219) 293-9743 - Elkhart

### **AIDS Task Force of St. Joseph Co.**

*Care Management/Test Site*  
P.O. Box 344  
South Bend, IN 46624  
(219) 288-0370

### **Aliveness Project**

*Care Coordination/Test Site*  
301 East 8th Street  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
(219) 882-2453

### **Berrien Co. AIDS Coalition**

P.O. Box 8822  
Benton Harbor, MI 49023  
(616) 927-2437  
(800) 663-2437 (MI only)

### **Elkhart Co. C.A.G.**

608 Oakland Ave.  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
(219) 523-2283

### **Planned Parenthood**

201 South Chapin Street  
South Bend, IN 46601  
(219) 289-7062

## Religion/Churches

### **Central United Methodist Church**

1920 South Michigan Street  
South Bend, IN 46614  
(219) 289-7725

### **New Life Community Church of Hope**

113 Skwiat Legion Avenue  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
(219) 871-1033  
(219) 778-9332  
lnnulife@netnitco.net

### **Southside Christian Church**

1329 East Jackson Road  
South Bend, IN 46615  
(219) 291-1156  
mlcarroll@juno.com

## Support/Social Groups

### **Excalibur of Michiana**

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P.O. Box 1753

South Bend, IN 46635

### **Lesbian Support Group**

P.O. Box 1612  
Mishawaka, IN 46544

### **Open Arms**

*A Newsletter Dedicated To The Needs of The Lesbian Community*

P.O. Box 845  
Mishawaka, IN 46546

### **PFLAG**

*Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays*

### **South Bend/Michiana**

P.O. Box 4195  
South Bend, IN 46634  
(219) 277-2684

### **Michigan City/Indiana Dunes**

1602 Hidden Hills Trail  
Long Beach, IN 46360-1436  
Phone: 219-878-9790  
Evening: 219-874-8695

*Call Bill or Barbara for meeting times and locations*

### **St. Joseph/Berrien County**

c/o BUUF  
4340 Lincoln Ave.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Phone: 616-429-2957  
Email: fwood@prodigy.net

**New Listing**

### **Sunday Bunch**

*Social Group For The GLBT Community*

P.O. Box 163  
South Bend, IN 46624  
prhoch@michiana.org

**New Listing**

### **U.G.L.Y. of Michiana**

*(United Gay & Lesbian Youths)*

*A Support Group For The GLBT Community Under The Age of 20*

P.O. Box 11582  
South Bend, IN 46634  
Attn: Doug  
(219) 235-9396  
www.uglymich.org





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## January 2001

### Sunday, Jan. 14th

**PFLAG St. Joseph, MI Chapter**  
Meeting. 2 pm – 4 pm at Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship church in St. Joseph, Michigan. Call (616) 429-2957 or e-mail [fwood@prodigy.net](mailto:fwood@prodigy.net) for directions and more information.

### Monday, Jan. 15th

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
*Let us remember the dream of equality and civil rights for ALL Americans.*

### Wednesday, Jan. 17th

**Names Project Meeting.** 6 pm – 9 pm at the Health Services Building of Notre Dame, Room 300. For more information and directions call John Roxy at (219) 232-6930.

### Friday, Jan. 19th

**Lesbian Support Group Meeting** starting at 7 pm. The Lesbian Support Group meets on the first and third Friday of each month. *For more info. please direct correspondences to the address located in the Gay Directory or e-mail Open Arms at [openarms@planetout.com](mailto:openarms@planetout.com) and we will forward your message.*

### Wednesday, Jan. 24th

**Barnes & Noble GLBT Reading Group.** Starts at 8:30 pm at Barnes & Noble on Grape Rd., Mishawaka.

**Pride Coalition Meeting.** 6 pm – 8 pm at Central United Methodist Church, 1920 S. Michigan St., South Bend. Call (219) 289-7725 for more information.

### Sunday, Jan. 28th

**PFLAG South Bend/Michiana Chapter** Meeting. 2 pm – 4 pm at (NEW LOCATION) *Southside Christian Church*, E. Jackson St., South Bend. Call (219) 277-2684 for more information & directions.

If you have a meeting or event you would like listed in future editions of Michiana's Rainbow Gazette please contact us by the 10th of the preceding month at:

**Community Events, 222 W. Battell St., Mishawaka, Indiana 46545-6139. Attn: Glenn James** - or send an e-mail to [mrgsb@gay.com](mailto:mrgsb@gay.com).



**Southside Christian Church  
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**Worship at 10:00 a.m September-May  
9:30 a.m. June-August  
1329 E. Jackson Road  
South Bend, Indiana 46614  
phone 219-291-1156  
email: [micarroll@juno.com](mailto:micarroll@juno.com)  
website:  
<http://pages.hotbot.com/rel/southside>**

**Martha Carroll, Minister**

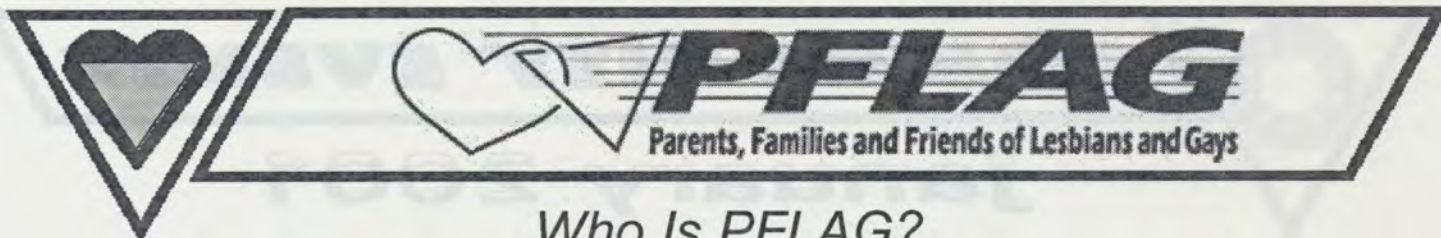
## REMINDER...

Deadline for advertisement and articles is the 10th of the preceding month.

For information about advertising with Michiana's Rainbow Gazette please call Glenn at (219) 256-1794 or e-mail us at [mrgsb@gay.com](mailto:mrgsb@gay.com)

Support The Advertisers Who Support Us...Tell Them You Saw Their Ad In Michiana's Rainbow Gazette!





## Who Is PFLAG?

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) was founded in 1961 by twenty-five parents concerned with society's attitude toward their gay, lesbian, and bisexual children. Today, PFLAG represents more than 75,000 families in the United States with local grassroots affiliates actively involved in more than 430 communities in the U.S. as well as in 11 countries. The Michiana Chapter of PFLAG was established in 1992 by two mothers with gay sons.

A major misconception of PFLAG is that it is open only to parents and family members of lesbigayt (lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgendered individuals). Far from it! In addition to its "straight" allies, we have lesbigayt members who are committed to ending discrimination through education of an uninformed society, and advocacy to secure equal civil rights (not "special" rights) for all.

We provide support and encouragement to lesbigayt persons during the process of "coming out" to their families and friends, and to family members dealing with their newfound information

about a loved one – information that often drives them "into the closet."

Working together we can (in time) affect a change in the attitudes of a misinformed, hostile society to one that is open, healthy and respectful of diversity.

We encourage all interested in learning more about the phenomenon of homosexuality, the discrimination faced by gay persons, and how we might educate society and secure equal civil rights for all to join us the fourth Sunday of each month (except when it falls on a holiday weekend such as Memorial Day, etc.) from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Southside

Christian Church, 1329 E. Jackson Rd., South Bend (see directions below).

*You do not have to be a member to attend and learn.*

**"Working together we can affect a change in the attitudes of a misinformed, hostile society to one that is open, healthy and respectful of diversity."**

## PFLAG's New Home

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) had its first meeting in its new home by hosting an Open House on December 17, 2000. We would like to invite all those who would like to know more about our mission of SUPPORT, EDUCATION & ADVOCACY to join us at our monthly

meetings from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at our new location – Southside Christian Church.

We are pleased that Southside Christian Church has generously offered to host our meetings. This location will be more convenient for our members from Elkhart, Goshen, LaPorte and other communities south of the city.



We would like to express our gratitude to the members of Christ The King Lutheran Church and Samaritan Counseling Center for the hospitality they extended to us the past eight years. Storage for our extensive library had contributed to the need to find other quarters.

During the January meeting, a professor from Notre Dame will share the relationship he has discovered between his spiritual journey and "coming out" as a gay man.

*Directions: South of Scottsdale Mall, East of Miami. If coming from Elkhart, Goshen LaPorte, or Michigan City, take the St. Joseph Valley Parkway (bypass) to the Ironwood exit and go South to the first stop sign. Turn right onto Jackson Rd. The church is on the right just before Miami Rd.*

### Michiana Tax & Accounting, Inc



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# Update: From Our House To The School House

Indy PFLAG News



The launching of PFLAG's safe schools campaign entitled "From Our House to the School House: A Recipe for Safe Schools" was an overwhelming success. Over 100 chapters

participated in the campaign and it was very exciting to see all of the important and creative activities that took place throughout the country. We were particularly pleased to hear over and over again how chapters used the

educator brochure as an educational and advocacy tool to gain access to local school systems and school administrators.

This is just the beginning of a three year campaign to make schools safer for all youth – particularly GLBT youth. As such, there is a great deal of work that lies ahead. The national staff has learned a great deal from this campaign and we hope to incorporate those lessons along with your feedback and ideas into the launching of the second phase of the campaign next October.



## Annual Human Rights Conference Relocates

PFLAG-Indy – December 2000 (Edited For Length)

An official's homophobia has cost his city the honor (and revenue) of hosting an annual conference of Indiana Civil Rights Workers. The Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies has voted to move its 2001 annual meeting out of Richmond, Indiana, the city where the director of human rights had waged a high profile campaign against legal protection for gays and lesbians.

The Richmond city council recently voted not to include sexual orientation in a revision of the city's non-discrimination policy, a change that had been sought by the local PFLAG chapter. Ron Chappell, the city's part-time director of human rights and a Nazarene minister, publicly urged the city council to leave out sexual orientation, claiming that homosexuality is a chosen behavior and in words that seemed reminiscent of the religious right's attempts to smear gays as pedophiles, urging the Council members to think about their children and grandchildren in making their decision.

Moreover, Chappell waged an ongoing and high-profile campaign against legal protection for gays via his weekly radio and television program, "Bible Light," citing Biblical authority for his views and campaigning for local residents to call the city

council to oppose the change. In an editorial, the Richmond Palladium-Item urged Richmond commission to fire Chappell saying his actions were a conflict of interest, had destroyed his credibility, and were inappropriate for a city official whose job is to work in favor of equal rights for everyone.

In a special meeting in October, the board of the Indiana Consortium discussed the Richmond situation at length, along with Chappell's proposal for an annual meeting workshop on "the other side of sexual orientation." Although Indiana has no state law protecting gays from discrimination, several Consortium board members noted that the organization's mission is to enforce equal opportunity for all and to be a leader for change. The board voted 8-1 (Rev. Chappell being the lone dissenting vote, plus on abstention, to remove the conference from Richmond. The conference usually draws in about 100 participants and spans 2 1/2 days. Plans are underway to relocate the 2001 meeting to northwest Indiana.

## PNR Needs Your Help

Parent's Reconciling Network December 19, 2000

**UNITED METHODIST PARENTS:** The Parent's Reconciling Network (PRN) needs you. We are expanding the parents' organization that was originally formed for lobbying efforts at the 2000 General Conference because we believe that it is through parents that change can be achieved. Our goals are: to identify and support one another within our local churches and/or conferences; to encourage our congregations to welcome our l/g/b/t loved ones; and to seek change in our denomination's anti-gay position.

We invite you to join with us for information, sharing, and support. There is no charge for enrolling in this group, and our mailing list is confidential. To receive our free newsletter and to find out what you can do to help is this effort, please send your name, address, phone number, and email address to Parents' Reconciling Network (PRN), 3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago, IL 60641 or email: PRN@rcp.org or call 773-736-5526. We need you.

For More Information About  
PFLAG Please Direct All  
Correspondences To:

PFLAG South Bend/Michiana  
P.O. Box 4195  
South Bend, IN 46634

For Membership Information Please  
Refer To The Back Page Of This  
Publication.

To Locate A PFLAG Chapter In Your Area  
Call (202) 638-4200 Or Visit PFLAG Online  
At [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)





# the bookshelf

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## Homophobia: A History

by Byrne R. Fone ISBN: 0805045597 Publisher: Henry Holt & Company, Inc.

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### The Last Acceptable Prejudice

The terms "homophobia" and "homosexuality" may have been coined during the last century, but the behaviors associated with them have been around since the dawn of time. Byrne Fone, a professor emeritus at CUNY and a pioneer in the teaching of gay and lesbian studies, has put together a history of homosexuality, from ancient times to our modern era of supposed tolerance. That history, which highlights centuries of shifting attitudes that range from acceptance to extreme persecution, is the subject of Fone's latest treatise, the excellent *Homophobia: A History*.

Fone's examination begins with the formative origins of homophobic attitudes -- his sources include literature, philosophy, and religion -- and the ways homosexuality in general has influenced societal behaviors, lawmaking, and cultural mores. He closes with an extensive look at modern-day homophobia, as well as the theories, oddities, and perversions that have colored it. And while he concedes that modern-day attitudes are more relaxed and tolerant, the continued legitimization of homophobia by both religions and societies contributes toward making it one of the last acceptable prejudices.

Eight sections comprise the book; the history of homosexuality and its accompanying homophobia starts with the Greco-Roman period, when homosexuality was not only common but somewhat accepted. In a section entitled "Inventing Sodom,"

Fone examines the sacred texts, laws, and customs of both Judaism and early Christianity, including the Bible and its story of Sodom. Beginning with the fall of Rome, he highlights "A Thousand Years of Sodomy," demonstrating examples of religions creating and reinforcing homophobia throughout the ages. Looking at more modern times, Fone explores the legitimizing influence classical studies had during the 17th and 18th centuries (a period of supposed homosexual enlightenment) and the discrimination, persecution, and repression that occurred -- and still does occur -- in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

Fone's sources are varied and numerous: literary works as diverse as Elizabethan poetry and Hemingway novels; philosophical texts ranging from Plato to Walt Whitman. While his definition of homosexuality includes lesbians as well as gay men, there is little attention devoted to lesbians in the work, ostensibly because they remained largely invisible until recent times. Still, Fone's mapping out of the evolution of homosexuality and its effects on the social order, public attitudes, and laws of any given time manages to be intellectual, enlightening, and entertaining.

### Individual, Couples & Group counseling

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### Gay & Lesbian Top Ten

1. The Night Listener
2. The Hours
3. A Density of Souls
4. Best Lesbian Erotica
5. Not a Day Goes By
6. Tales of the City
7. Invisible Life
8. The Lesbian Sex Book
9. Aimee and Jaguar
10. Best Gay Erotica





# Body Beautiful

For Your Mind, Body & Spirit!

## Conflicting Diet Messages Make Some Americans Eat Worse

by Jon Garbo – © 2001 GayHealth.com

So your New Year's resolution is to eat better. But as you follow health and diet news, you find a succession of studies that seem to contradict each other. Is butter on the good list or the bad list? Do beta-carotene supplements prevent cancer or cause it? Is too much coffee harmful or not? If you're like some Americans, you may throw up your arms in frustration -- and stuff your face with foods high in fat.

"The more negative and confused people feel about dietary recommendations, the more likely they are to eat a fat-laden diet that skimps on fruits and vegetables," said Ruth E. Patterson, Ph.D., R.D. Dr. Patterson is an associate member of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA and lead author of a study on so-called "nutrition backlash," which appears in the January 2001 issue of the Journal of the American Dietetic Association.

In the first population-based study of its kind, Dr. Patterson and colleagues set out to measure the growing rebellion against diet and nutrition messages, and how it may affect eating habits. They randomly interviewed 1,751 adults in Washington state. Sixty percent of respondents were women, 90 percent were Caucasian and the mean age was 44. The interview questions addressed attitudes toward dietary recommendations and gauged consumption of fat, fruits and vegetables.

Around 70 percent of respondents felt that Americans are obsessed with the fat in their diets and that the government should not tell people what to eat. More than a quarter agreed that eating low-fat foods takes the pleasure out of eating. And over 40 percent said they were tired of hearing about what foods they should or should not eat, and that dietary recommendations 'should be taken with a grain of salt.'

Those who scored highest on the backlash scale were young men (age 18 to 35), the elderly (age 60 and over) and people of lower socioeconomic status, as measured by education or income.

Respondents with the greatest degree of backlash had diets that were approximately 4 percentage points higher in fat than those at the opposite end of the spectrum, "a substantive difference," said Patterson. "If we assume that on average, Americans eat diets with 34 percent of energy from fat, we could hypothesize that individuals with high backlash chose diets with 36 to 38 percent energy from fat," she added. Nutrition experts recommend a diet in which 30 percent or less of daily calories come from fat.

The findings were not all bad news. More than 90 percent of respondents felt that nutrition research helps them live longer and three-quarters agreed that warning labels should be placed on high-fat foods.

"The majority of the public still cares about their diet and health, but there are definitely some subgroups that have just plain had it," Patterson observed.

Future nutrition education efforts may be undermined by the perception that the diet-health message is constantly changing or that dietary recommendations are conflicting, Patterson noted. To counter inconsistent messages, Patterson and colleagues called for collaboration among health organizations, government agencies, the food industry and the media. "Such a partnership could work to ensure the development and dissemination of consistent, positive messages that promote wise food choices," she explained.

In the meantime, Patterson suggested that Americans adopt a more European attitude toward eating, pointing out the first recommendation of the French Dietary Guidelines: enjoy your food. "There are all kinds of ways to have a good, healthy diet while still eating many enjoyable foods," she said.

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# National Headlines

## Parenting & Adoption

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For same-sex couples, becoming parents is never easy. For years, adoption and sperm or egg donations have been the only options. But recently, a Scottish scientist is suggesting that cloning technology could soon allow creation of an offspring with genetic material contributed by two males -- that is, both men would be genetic fathers. (The same technology would allow for a child to have two genetic mothers, as well.) The ethical questions raised by this use of genetics are numerous, and governments have not yet decided how to address them.

Until earlier this year, it was legal for a gay man or lesbian to adopt children in every U.S. state except Florida. In the last few months, however, Utah and Mississippi have passed laws that effectively prohibit queer adoptions. Additionally, private agencies can almost always exclude gay parents if they so desire. The news is not all bad, though. The late 1990s saw the proliferation of "second parent adoption" laws, which grant joint parental responsibility to two unmarried people. Approximately 25 states allow gays and lesbians to adopt the children of their

partners. Recent court verdicts have been mixed on this subject, with Hawaii announcing its first co-adoptions, and a Pennsylvania appeals court disallowing them. In October, a lesbian co-parent won permanent visitation rights with her former partner's biological children for the first time ever in New York.

Legislatures frequently take action regarding gay and lesbian adoption rights. Most recently, on September 20 the U.S. Congress approved a treaty on intercountry adoption that did *not* include a proposed ban on adoptions by gay and lesbian couples. However, the treaty does allow other countries to set criteria for the American families they will allow to adopt their children. China, one of the largest sources of adopted children, objects to queer parenting. But there may be loopholes that will allow same-sex couples to get around this restriction.

## GLBT's Life Getting Better According To HRC

© 2000 Planet Out – [www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com)

Since gay men and lesbians cannot marry anywhere in the U.S., many look to domestic partnership -- which sometimes guarantees employer- or government-provided health care and other benefits -- as the "next best thing." According to the Human Rights Campaign's annual report on the state of the workplace for GLBT people, the bottom line is that "life is getting better all the time." The number of employers offering domestic partnership health benefits has increased 25 percent since last year -- a rise HRC Education Department Director Kim Mills termed "meteoric." As of August, 3,572 companies, colleges, universities, and governments were offering or planned to offer domestic partnership benefits. This includes 100 of the Fortune 500.

Two of the most notable additions of domestic partnership benefits in the past year came in June. Coca-Cola announced that

it would begin providing health care benefits to same-sex domestic partners of its U.S. employees. The decision came only weeks after the "Big Three" automakers announced that they would extend spousal health care benefits to gay and lesbian partners. The two announcements were hailed by the HRC as "yet another sign that domestic partner benefits are becoming a standard component of benefits packages at forward-thinking companies."

In Vermont, California, and a few other states, DP has legal significance. In California, registered couples are granted hospital visitation rights. Vermont's law -- which took effect July 1 -- goes much farther, granting same-sex "civil unions" almost all of the same benefits and burdens of marriage.

**Michiana's Rainbow  
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# Portland City Council Advances Civil Rights

© 2000 Advocate – [www.advocate.com](http://www.advocate.com)



The Portland, Oregon City Council on December 13 voted unanimously to add "gender identity" as a category protected from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations under the city's Civil Rights Ordinance. The city had already protected transgendered people from discrimination in its own employment policies in 1999. The bill was sponsored by Mayor Vera Katz and Commissioner Dan Saltzman.

Both the bill and its accompanying Compliance Guidelines for Implementation were drafted in consultation with Lori Buckwalter, executive director of the trans-activist group It's Time, Oregon! which has been seeking the amendment for four years. In a statement, Buckwalter praised the city and its leaders and acknowledged the active support of a number of other groups

in lobbying for the measure.

In three hours of testimony heard before the City Council vote, the Christian Coalition spoke in opposition to the entire concept. Some gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender groups also opposed it for requiring only "reasonable accommodations" from employers.

Portland is believed to be the 26th U.S. city to protect transgendered people from discrimination. Portland's ordinance provides for enforcement both through private civil lawsuits and through civil rights complaints to the state.

## HCA Could Be Clinton's Last Effort On Behalf Of GLBT

© 2000 Planet Out – [www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com)

Passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act could be President Clinton's last official effort on behalf of gay men and lesbians. The HCPA would add sexual orientation along with gender and disability as categories protected under federal hate crimes law, as well as greatly expanding federal authorities' ability to investigate and prosecute hate crimes. On October 27, Clinton threatened to veto a major appropriations bill unless the Senate included the HCPA in a rider. When the Senate broke for the election, the issue had not yet been resolved. Previously, on October 5, a House-Senate conference committee voted 11 - 9 to drop a similar rider from the major defense spending bill, despite a strong majority of the House having voted to "instruct" their conferees to retain the rider. Click here to find out who you can call.

The legal term "hate crimes" refers to violent crimes that involve bias, and hate crimes perpetrators usually face harsher sentences than other criminals. Current federal hate crimes law covers only color, national origin, race, and religion. In 22 states and Washington D.C., sexual orientation is already a protected category. But roughly the same number of states exclude sexual orientation, and the remainder have no hate crimes laws at all. If Clinton's veto threat doesn't work, the fate of the HCPA will rest entirely on the new administration and the balance of power in Congress and the Senate. The Bush-Cheney ticket has opposed the HCPA. However, a growing number of Republicans have expressed support for the bill, including John Warner, the Virginia senator that gay rights groups had hoped would be able to keep the hate crimes protections in the defense bill.

One of the reasons Warner changed his mind was the death of Danny Lee Overstreet, who was

killed this September in a predominantly gay Roanoke, Virginia bar. His alleged killer had earlier said he wanted to kill gay people. But Overstreet's murder was not enough to convince a Virginia legislative committee to pass a bill to add sexual orientation to the state's hate crimes law. The bill was rejected 8 - 4 on December 1. The Virginia shooting reinforced the fact that hate crimes remain a threat to the queer community. In fact, crimes against gay, lesbian, and bisexual Americans are the third largest category of hate crime -- and the FBI's latest report shows that incidents based on sexual orientation have more than tripled since 1991.

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# **Michiana's Rainbow Gazette Proudly Serves The Community As The Official Newsletter Of Pride Coalition And May Be Obtained At Any Of These Locations -**

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South Bend, IN

AIDS Task Force of  
St. Joseph Co.  
South Bend, IN

Aliveness Project  
Michigan City, IN

Barnes & Noble  
Grape Rd., Mish., IN

Berrien Co. AIDS Coalition  
Berrien Springs, MI

Borders Book Store  
Grape Rd., Mish., IN

Central United Methodist  
Church  
South Bend, IN

Helen's Night Club  
Michigan City, IN

Higher Grounds  
South Bend, IN

Jeannie's Tavern  
South Bend, IN

New Life Community Church  
of Hope  
Michigan City, IN

PFLAG  
South Bend, IN

Planned Parenthood  
S. Chapin St., South Bend, IN

Seahorse Cabaret II  
South Bend, IN

Southside Christian Church  
South Bend, IN

Starz  
South Bend, IN

Truman's Night Club  
Mishawaka, IN

Vickie's  
South Bend, IN

## **Our Mission...**

Michiana's Rainbow Gazette exist as a media source to disseminate news and educational information in a diverse and unbiased manner to help promote the improvement of the overall welfare of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and heterosexual community in Michiana and all surrounding areas.

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Michiana's Rainbow Gazette is a freely distributed newsletter published by Pride Coalition of South Bend, Indiana. All submissions to Michiana's Rainbow Gazette, including advertisement, letters, articles and community events, must be received by the 10th of the preceding month.

## **Editorial Committee**

Lois Olson, PFLAG Editor  
S.E., Open Arms Editor  
Glenn James, Design & Layout  
2 At-Large Positions Open

**Contributors:** E. Walls, Sissy Van Dyke, Robert G. (PPHNCI), L. B., & Lee Lynch,

## **Don't Throw This Away...**

Please Share Michiana's Rainbow Gazette & Pass This Copy On To A Friend.

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